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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Wands et al.

SERIAL NUMBER: 09/903,248

EXAMINER: K. Canella

FILING DATE: November 8, 1999

ART UNIT: 1642

FOR: DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

April 28, 2003  
Boston, Massachusetts

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**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

In response to the Office Action mailed on October 28, 2002, please amend the application as follows.

In the specification:

On page 1, replace paragraph on lines 19-35 with the following paragraph.

The invention features a method for diagnosing a malignant neoplasm in a mammal by contacting a bodily fluid from the mammal with an antibody which binds to an human aspartyl (asparaginyl) beta-hydroxylase (HAAH) polypeptide under conditions sufficient to form an antigen-antibody complex and detecting the antigen-antibody complex (for the purposes of this specification, HAAH polypeptide refers to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and HAAH cDNA refers to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3). Malignant neoplasms detected in this manner include those derived from endodermal tissue, e.g., colon cancer, breast cancer, pancreatic cancer, liver cancer, and cancer of the bile ducts. Neoplasms of the central nervous system (CNS) such as primary malignant CNS neoplasms of both neuronal and glial cell origin and metastatic CNS neoplasms are also detected. Patient derived tissue samples, e.g., biopsies of